

Plane News

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October 2010 -Fall



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The Runway at Palomar Airport is Ready for Takeoff!

Safety is Everyone's Responsibility

By Roger Griffiths, Airport Manager

Events when people encroach onto active runways and taxiways, endangering not only themselves but also the travelling public, are thankfully rare at County Airports. However, they do happen and one such event is one too many.

Known as Vehicle/Pedestrian Deviations or Runway Incursions, unauthorized people walking or driving across runways and taxiways pose a very real threat to pilots and their passengers and such incidents attract the immediate attention of FAA.

Past incidents have taught us that it is often the casual visitor to the airport who finds themselves in the wrong place. As an airport tenant or business employee it is **YOUR** responsibility to ensure that your guests understand the rules and abide by them.

- If you escort someone in, escort them out. They don't know where they are going.
- Explain the rules to all your guests. If you are unsure yourself, ask County Airport staff.
- If you've been a pilot for years then you should know better than to try a 'sneak' across.

DO NOT CROSS MOVEMENT BOUNDARY LINE



**Beyond this point all traffic is controlled by Federal Aviation Administration. ATCT
(121.70) OR ON CTAF (120.70)**

Toys For Tots – A County Airports Tradition

By Bo Donovan, Ramona Airport Contract Manager



Final details are being worked out for December's annual Toys For Tots drive at Ramona Airport and Fallbrook Airpark. This will be Ramona's 4th year and the 3rd for Fallbrook. The 2009 toy drive at Ramona Airport was the second largest in San Diego, behind a game-day drive by the Chargers at Qualcomm Stadium. New, unwrapped toys will be collected at both airports and several business locations throughout Ramona and Fallbrook. The Marines, in their full dress blues, will be there to accept your donations and thank you on behalf of needy children throughout San Diego County. Date and time details coming soon.

Air Service Development – Utilizing "the Airport Next Door"

By Reggie Angquico, Administrative Analyst Trainee



McClellan-Palomar Airport (CLD) has a catchment area (the number of people living within an area in which people have approximately one hour of travel time to an airport) of 1.15 million people. The total population of the four commercial airports in Southern California's catchment area is 9.3 million and CLD has a 12.3 % share of this total.

Unfortunately, CLD has only one airline and destination that services the North County and its catchment area. ([See attached map, orange area](#)). Airline passengers residing in CLD's catchment area are forced to travel to nearby airports like John Wayne in Orange County, downtown San Diego and even Ontario/LAX.

Our "Leakage Study" has shown that starting from the first quarter of 2009 ending first quarter of 2010, there were 3.27 million trips from our catchment area. Out of this number; only 53,520 trips came from CLD (1.6% of 3,270,633

Carlsbad area passengers) due to unavailable flights, higher fare and/or lack of awareness of

flight availability. County Airport's goal is to attract airlines to operate out of CLD to destinations besides Los Angeles. We have contacted prospective airlines, offered tours and discussed with them the advantages of operating out of Carlsbad.

CLD has suffered continued decrease in enplanements (passenger boarding) from the high of 73,383 (2000) to 24,705 (2009). To attract airlines, County Airports has applied for a Small Community Air Service Development grant from the Department of Transportation to provide financial incentives to subsidize or offer revenue guarantees to air carriers.

Compass Points

Over the last 18 months, I served on the [Regional Aviation Strategic Plan](#) (RASP) committee that is now concluding its work. The RASP was designed to evaluate ways to optimize the public use airports in the region. To date, the RASP has defined the region's long range air transportation needs and the roles of each airport in meeting those needs. RASP Open Houses were recently held at four San Diego county airports. Ted Anasis, San Diego Regional Airport Authority, heads this project and welcomes feedback from the aviation community. [Click here for more information.](#)

Recently, a new radio program was launched called On Air Aviation. The objective of On Air Aviation is to serve the aviation community for the educational purpose of preserving aviation heritage and promoting aviation to new generations. Topics will cover past, present and future items of interest to the aviation community and the general public, from those merely curious about aviation, to seasoned aviation professionals and veterans. On Air Aviation is a weekly program on Sundays from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., on [KCBQ](#) 1170 AM. [Click here for more information.](#)

Every year County Airports updates their Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the FAA. The purpose of this program is to identify and prioritize projects for enhancing safety, operations, and airport capacity. County Airports is once again reaching for maximum federal funding. The list of planned improvements includes: major safety enhancements through reconstruction of Fallbrook Airpark; augmented capacity of Gillespie Field with completion of environmental work necessary to proceed with the Cajon Air Center; a substantial runway drainage improvement for Gillespie Field; installation of new runway/taxiway lighting, signage, and new generator at Borrego Airport. In addition to these CIP projects, there are numerous large private developments on airport properties in progress such as the Palomar Commons at Carlsbad; Ramona Air Center; and further industrial park expansion at Gillespie Field. These non-aviation developments are critical to financial balance of the County Airports System.

Clear skies & happy landings!



Pete Drinkwater, Director of Airports



Gillespie Goes Green

By Mike Carson, Maintenance Supervisor

Gillespie Field has undergone a landscape facelift. The Airports Maintenance Crew recently transformed North Marshall's island landscape to a water saving green-scape. Much of the old ground cover was removed and replaced with an efficient drip irrigation system and decorative bark. We are utilizing the reclaimed water system provided by Padre Dam.

The green-scape consists of Queen Palms planted just inside the fence line and Star Jasmine plants that will eventually cover the stretch of fence-line adjacent to the aircraft parking area.

The finishing touch is decorative bark which also helps prevent FOD, erosion and water evaporation.

The SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink "Sun Bird" helicopter is based and maintained out of High Performance Aircraft (HPA) at Gillespie Field. HPA held several Open Houses to introduce interested parties to the helicopter (*shown below*).



Left to right: Ivor Shier - owner/operator of Corporate Helicopters; Michael Manry - helicopter and resource manager for SDG&E; Michael Borden - owner/operator for High Performance Aircraft.

When construction of the Sunrise Powerlink starts in fall 2010, SDG&E's Sun Bird will take to the skies lifting towers into place and accessing hard-to-reach areas along the transmission line's route in remote Eastern San Diego and Imperial Counties. This heavy-lift helicopter will help construct more than 50 percent of the overhead portion of the Sunrise Powerlink. [Click here for more information.](#)

Marketing and Business Planning – The Benefits of 'CLD'



By Reggie Angquico, Administrative Analyst Trainee

In the last few months, we have added five new international airlines to our list of Passenger Facility Charge (PFC). They are Alaska Airlines, Alitalia Airlines, South African Airways, Malaysia Airlines, Lineas Aereas Costarricenses, and Taca International Airlines. This may have resulted from our ad campaign in the North County highlighting McClellan-Palomar Airport's six daily flights to Los Angeles (LAX) - a major hub airport used to connect to other airlines traveling overseas and nationwide.

McClellan-Palomar Airport is comparable to the Commuter Terminal at San Diego International Airport. Both offer flights to Los Angeles but McClellan-Palomar Airport serves North County's residence and has the following advantages: reduced time spent in traffic - decrease carbon footprint; fewer passengers therefore decreased boarding time; and cheaper parking fees - currently \$3/day. Our Leakage Study has revealed that the top ten destinations from our catchment area are: San Francisco, Oakland, New York, Seattle, Las Vegas, Sacramento, Phoenix, San Jose, Denver and Chicago.

Our goal is to re-capture our "leaked" passengers to other airports. We are planning to meet with the North County businesses and offer them to participate in a pre-purchase ticket program. This would assure prospective airlines that there is a continued source of passengers. The following airlines have aircraft that could operate from McClellan-Palomar Airport to possible destinations: Delta Airlines to Salt Lake City, US Airways to Phoenix, Frontier or United Airlines to Denver.

Night Time is the Right Time at The Landings Restaurant at Palomar Airport in Carlsbad

By Lee Ann Lardy, Project Manager



There is a lot happening this fall at The Landings Restaurant and Bar, located at McClellan-Palomar Airport in Carlsbad. Stop by for great entertainment specials every night of the week.

The fun starts on Sunday with NFL football all day, with draft beer specials and The Landings special \$100 Burger and Brew for \$9.95.

What a great deal! Happy Hour is every night of the week from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with terrific food and drink specials. Monday Night Football Happy Hour lasts all night. For a change of pace on Tuesday nights "the World Famous" Jim Gibson plays Americana, rhythm and blues acoustic guitar from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Learn to enjoy wine even more on Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with free international wine tastings &

“Wine 101”. If you like trivia, Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. is your night with Hosted Trivia and the opportunity to win cash prizes.



The fun continues on weekends with live bands on the patio from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. every Friday. Saturday night's all right with Kristina's Karaoke, voted best karaoke company by “Entertainer of the Year”. The fun begins at 7:00 p.m. and lasts all night. Saturday is also “Pasta Night” with any pasta dinner, house salad & garlic bread for \$10.95. The Saturday Night Wine Special (any bottle of wine for half the wine list price) is a great way to treat yourself to an old favorite or give a new bottle a try.

There's something for everyone so file your flight plan, set your course and join the gang at The Landings for great food and fun!



On September 16, WTS (Women in Transportation) presented an Innovation Award to McClellan-Palomar Airport for the recent terminal redevelopment project. The award is on display at the airport.



Pete Drinkwater accepting the award on behalf of County Airports shown here with Jim Cunningham, City of Poway Council Member and member of the MTS judging panel



Agua Caliente Airport - Diamond in the Rough

By Roger Griffiths, Airport Manager

Located in the beautiful Anza Borrego Desert, Agua Caliente Airport provides a convenient and central location for visitors to explore the desert. Consisting of a single paved 2500ft x 60ft runway (11/29) Agua Caliente has six tiedown spots for light aircraft.

The Anza Borrego State Park features beautiful desert scenery, desert blooms and hiking trails. A short walk (half a mile) across the Great South Stage Route takes you to the Agua Caliente County Park. The county park, open during the winter months (Labor Day to last weekend in May) features camping spots for tents and RVs, a hot springs with bathing pools and a small store.

More information on Agua Caliente County Park can be found at:
http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/parks/Camping/agua_caliente.html

Ramona Open House 2010 Recap

By Bo Donovan, Ramona Airport Contract Manager

Ramona Airport hosted the annual "Open House" Saturday, September 18. The event was attended by approximately 4,000 visitors.



Tours were available through the airport's air traffic control tower, CalFire Air Attack Base, U.S. Forest Service Helitack Base, Classic Rotors Helicopter Museum and airport businesses. The "Open House" opened with a pancake breakfast, which sold out by 10:00 a.m. and a "Mexican Fiesta" lunch, which also sold out. Kids were treated to a visit by Smokey Bear and

the U.S. Forest Services' "crafts fair" which uses craft assignments to educate kids on fire prevention and safe use of the national park system.



Palomar Airport Conducts Emergency Response Exercise

By Michael Drake, Public Information Officer



McClellan-Palomar Airport conducted a major emergency response exercise Friday, October 1. First responders from the airport, Carlsbad, Encinitas, Escondido, and Oceanside responded to the call of a simulated aircraft incident and 26 victims. Twenty-six "victims," - volunteers from Palomar College Fire Academy - in very realistic moulage were laying on the runway or trapped inside a bus to simulate a damaged aircraft waited for rescue. Fire trucks raced down the runway, lights flashing to the site. The victims were triaged and transported to area hospitals.

Our thanks to all the participants - from the volunteer victims to the first responders who constantly train for such an event hoping it will never happen.

The runway at Palomar Airport is ready for take off!

By Dan Thompson, Administrative Secretary

Ground testing had determined the potential for failure of the runway. Initially, County Airports only had funding for the first two phases, enough to renovate the first 2,000 feet of the runway. In late August 2009, the Federal Aviation Administration came forward with funding for the entire project, provided a contract was awarded by September 30, 2009. With this new deadline, the County rose to the challenge and accepted a winning bid submitted by Hazard Construction.



The contractor dug up the old asphalt runway, ground up the material and processed it on-site to be recycled for the new surface. Eleven inches of asphalt later and the runway was stronger than ever. The project did not add a second runway to the airport or increase the length of the existing runway. The project was merely a thorough renovation of the existing runway.



Many people, businesses and area airports were integral in completing this project. All of their efforts led to what was needed – a strong, safe, serviceable runway with a projected life span of 20 years.



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